

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-20 are now presented for examination. Claim 17 has been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regards as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 are the only independent claims.

Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter in claiming a data structure not embodied in a computer readable-medium. The claim has been amended to recite “A computer program product embodied in a computer-readable medium”. Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 17 as currently amended fulfills the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8-10, 13, 14, and 16-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Japanese Publication #06-062346 (Watanabe Yoshinao) in view of U.S. Patent 6,172,719 (Kim) and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0086685 (Bowden, III, et al.). Claims 3, 7, 11 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Japanese Publication #06-062346 (Watanabe Yoshinao) in view of U.S. Patent 6,172,719 (Kim), U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0086685 (Bowden, III, et al.) and further in view of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 10-262198 (Isao, et al.). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Pending Claims 1, 9 and 18 and Claim 17 as currently amended are directed to an television system arrangement in which a terminal receives a television program and outputs a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals. An image display device connected to the terminal with a connection cable receives the signal from the terminal and displays a corresponding image. According to the arrangement, a first ambient environment around the image display device is detected in the image display device. A second ambient environment around the image display device is detected in the image display device. A change of the detected first ambient environment is transmitted to the terminal through the connection cable. A first characteristic of the image display device is adjusted in the terminal based on the transmitted

change. A second characteristic of the image display device is adjusted in the image display device based on a detected change of the second ambient environment.

In Applicants' view, Watanabe Yoshinao discloses a television receiver that has a volume sensor and a voice control circuit. The volume sensor detects surrounding noise. The initially set volume is output from a speaker when there is no surrounding noise. When the volume sensor detects increasing surrounding noise, the volume control circuit controls a voice processing circuit so that the volume is increased and output from the speaker.

In Applicants' opinion, Kim discloses an automatic color temperature control device for a video appliance which can control the color temperature of a picture displayed on a screen so as to give the viewer the impression of being coolly refreshed when the environmental temperature is high, and the impression of being warmed when the environmental temperature is low. The device has a chromaticity sensing section for sensing environmental brightness and color of the appliance. A temperature sensing section senses an environmental temperature of the appliance. A processing section recognizes the environmental brightness, color, and temperature in accordance with sensed signals outputted from the chromaticity sensing section and the temperature sensing section. Control signals are output to control a picture state of the appliance in response to the recognized environmental brightness, color, and temperature, and a video processor for controlling contrast, brightness, and color of a displayed picture in accordance with the control signals outputted from the processing section.

Bowden III et al., in Applicants' view, discloses a device having a portable digital photograph viewer and a base unit that accepts various personal accessories. The device includes non-volatile memory to store a number of digital photographs, a display to render the stored digital photographs, a processor to control the rendering of the stored digital photographs, and an enclosure to house these components. The enclosure's physical dimensions are in the order of portable hand held devices, and the display is sized in a complementary manner and disposed on a surface of the enclosure.

According to the invention defined in Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18, first and second ambient environments are detected by first and second detectors in an image display device. Change in the first ambient environment is transmitted to the terminal through the connection cable and a first characteristic of the image display device is adjusted in the terminal based on the transmitted change. A second characteristic of the image display device is adjusted in the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected by the second detector in the image display device. Advantageously a terminal remote from the image display is used to make necessary adjustments to such characteristics as contrast while adjustments to characteristics such as color temperature which depends on the type of image display are made in the image display device.

Watanabe Yoshinao may disclose a television receiver that has a volume sensor 9 and a volume control circuit 7. Both the volume sensor and the volume control circuit are located in the same unit which also includes a display part 6. There is no separation between a terminal and a display part and no connecting cable. As recognized by the Examiner, there is no disclosure in Watanabe Yoshinao of an image display device connected to a terminal with a connection cable or of a second detection means and a second adjustment means both in an image display device as in Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18.

Kim discloses an automatic color temperature control device that controls the color temperature according to detected environmental brightness and appliance color and environmental temperature of the appliance. The detection of environment and control in Kim is performed in a single apparatus (e.g., a video appliance controller or a television). In Kim, however, there is no teaching or suggestion of an image display device and a remote terminal connected by a cable in which two different ambient environments are detected in the image display device and adjustment for one image display characteristic is performed in a remote terminal while the adjustment for another image display characteristic is performed in image display device as in Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18.

Bowden III et al. may teach a portable digital photographic viewer that has a display 104 in an enclosure 122 with a circuit board 120. The circuit board has a user control interface 112 and a communication interface 110. As shown in Fig. 3 of and clearly disclosed in paragraphs 0014 and 0021 of Bowden III et al., the user control interface 112 receives user control inputs from a user and the communication interface 110 facilitates receiving of digital photographs from an external source. As a result, the communication interface which may be a parallel port, a universal serial bus port, an IEEE 1394 compatible port, or other like I/O interface is used solely for receiving digital photographs from a source such as a computer, etc. There is, however, no suggestion in Bowden II et al. of transmitting a change in a detected first ambient environment over the communication interface 110 since it only receives photographs from a source and any adjustment of the viewer resides solely in user control interface 112. Accordingly, it is not seen that Bowden III et al. in any manner suggests the feature of transmitting a change of a detected first ambient environment to a terminal through a connection cable connecting an image display device with a terminal and adjusting a first characteristic in the terminal as in Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18.

With regard to the cited combination, Neither Kim nor Watanabe Yoshinao in any way teaches or suggests the feature of Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 of two detection means to detect first and second ambient environments surrounding an image display device arranged in the image display device and a first image display device adjusting means in a terminal connected by cable to the image display device to adjust a first characteristic of the image display device based on a detected change in a first ambient environment surrounding the image display device transmitted to the terminal and a second image display adjusting means in the image display device to adjust a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change in a second ambient environment surrounding the image display device. Bowden III et al. is limited to teaching a communication interface on a photographic viewer circuit board connected to an external source

that only provides the function of facilitating receiving of digital photographs from the external source.

Accordingly, it is not seen that Bowden II et al.'s interface operating solely to receive digital photographs added to Watanabe Yoshinao's volume sensor arrangement in a television receiver without a cable connected image display device and terminal and Kim's chromaticity and temperature sensing sections for color temperature adjustment in a single controller for a video appliance could not possibly suggest the features of Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 of first and second detector means arranged in an image display device that detect first and second ambient environments combined with the further features of Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 of transmitting a change in the detected first ambient environment to a terminal and adjusting a first characteristic of the image display in the terminal and adjusting a second characteristic of the image display device in the image display device based on a change of the detected second ambient environment. It is therefore believed that pending Claims 1, 9, and 18 and claim 17 as currently amended are completely distinguished from any combination of Kim, Watanabe Yoshinao and Bowden III et al. and are allowable.

In view of the amendments above and the remarks below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

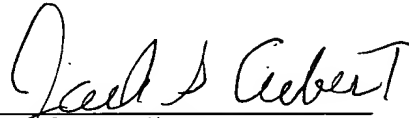
A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

Moreover, Applicants submit that the dependent claims are patentably distinguishable from the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims. In addition, Applicants submit that the dependent claims recite additional features further distinguishing them from the cited art, and respectfully request individual consideration of each dependent claim.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' attorney, Daniel S. Glueck, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jack S. Cubert". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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